

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A camera comprising:

an objective support configured to support an objective having an objective focal plane and a main optical axis;

a spectral splitter configured to split light passing along the main optical axis into spectral components;

photoelectric-effect sensors each configured to receive a respective one of the spectral components;

an optical viewfinder located off the main optical axis and configured to provide an off-field view image; and

a shutter configured to allow the light of the main optical axis to pass through the shutter, in an open position, and configured to direct the light to the viewfinder along a viewfinder optical axis, in a closed position, without further change of the viewfinder optical axis.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, wherein the camera comprises at least one mode in which the shutter periodically switches between the closed and the open positions, and

a switching period of the closed and the open positions is smaller than a duration of retinal persistence.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, wherein the shutter comprises at least one rotative element including at least one mirror part corresponding to the closed position and at least one aperture part corresponding to the open position.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, further comprising:

an automatic control device configured to maintain the at least one rotative element at a speed of rotation proportional to a frequency of a synchronization signal used for reading of the photoelectric-effect sensors; and

a position sensor configured to detect a position of the at least one rotative element, the position sensor and the automatic control device enabling the at least one rotative element to be phase-shifted with respect to the synchronization signal.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 14, wherein the photoelectric-effect sensors are frame transfer sensors.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, wherein the shutter comprises three modes that can be selected by a user, including:

a viewfinder mode fixing the at least one rotative element at a position in which the mirror part intersects the main optical axis;

a video mode fixing the at least one rotative element at a position in which the aperture part intersects the main optical axis; and

a combined mode spinning the at least one rotative element such that the mirror part and the aperture part periodically intersect the main optical axis at a period smaller than a duration of retinal persistence.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 13, wherein the at least one rotative element includes at least two mirror parts and at least two aperture parts, and

the mirror parts all cover a first angular sector and the aperture parts all cover a second angular sector.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 17, wherein there are at least two rotative elements having a same axis of rotation and offset by an angular offset such that the mirror parts of the at least two rotative elements overlap at least partially.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 18, wherein the angular offset can be selected by the user.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, further comprising a screen configured to display the synthesis of the light components after passage into processing means.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The camera according to claim 11, further comprising:

an adapter configured to receive the light passing along the main optical axis after having passed through the shutter and the focal plane,

wherein the spectral splitter is configured to receive the light passing along the main optical axis after having passed through the adapter and is configured to split the received light along separate split patterns, and

the shutter is positioned between the objective and the objective focal plane.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A camera comprising:

a means for splitting light passing along a main optical axis into spectral components;
photoelectric-effect means for receiving a respective one of the spectral components;
an optical viewfinder located off the main optical axis and configured to provide an off-field view image; and

means for directing the light passing along the main optical axis directly to the optical viewfinder by the a viewfinder optical axis and for passing the light to the photoelectric-effect means, thereby providing the off-field view to a user during imaging without further change of the viewfinder optical axis.

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A method of using a camera having an optical axis, the method comprising:

passing light along the optical axis through an open position of a shutter in one shutter position, and directing the light away from the optical axis after interaction with the shutter in a second shutter position, said light directed away from the optical axis being directed towards an optical viewfinder located off the optical axis, without further change of an optical axis of the light directed to the optical viewfinder;

splitting the light passed through the shutter into spectral components and passing the split component to different photoelectric-effect sensors;

detecting each respective one of the spectral components with a corresponding photoelectric-effect sensor; and

providing an off-field view by an optical viewfinder.

Claim 25-28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The camera according to Claim 11, wherein the off-field view image includes a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect sensors and a peripheral field image contacting a periphery of the useful field image.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The ~~method of using a~~ camera according to Claim 22, wherein the off-field view image includes a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect sensors and a peripheral field image contacting a periphery of the useful field image

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method of using a camera according to Claim 24, wherein the off-field view image includes a useful field image detected by the photoelectric-effect sensors and a peripheral field image contacting a periphery of the useful field image

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The camera according to Claim 11, wherein an optical path from the objective support to the optical viewfinder is shorter than an optical path from the objective support to the spectral splitter.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The camera according to Claim 22, wherein an optical path from a light entrance point of the camera to the optical viewfinder is shorter than an optical path from the light entrance point of the camera to the means for splitting light.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The method ~~camera~~ according to Claim 24, wherein an optical path from a light entrance point of the camera to the optical viewfinder is shorter than an optical path from the light entrance point of the camera to a location of the light splitting.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A camera comprising:

- an objective support configured to support ~~and~~ an objective having an objective focal plane and a main optical axis;
- an image sensor configured to produce an image at least from a light of the main optical axis;
- a focal plane adapter located between the objective focal plane and the image sensor, configured to produce an adapted focal plane onto the image sensor;
- an optical viewfinder located off the main optical axis and configured to provide an off-field image; and
- a combined shutter/reflector configured to allow the light of the main optical axis to pass through the shutter, in an open position, and configured reflect the light of the main optical axis to a viewfinder optical axis, in a closed position, the light being directed to the optical viewfinder without further change of the viewfinder optical axis,

wherein the off-field image is configured to produce a wider field of view than the image of the image sensor.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The camera according to Claim 35, wherein an optical path from the objective support to the optical viewfinder to is shorter than an optical path from the objective support to the image sensor.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The camera according to Claim 35,
wherein the combined shutter/reflector comprises at least two rotative elements with the same axis of rotation, configured to traverse the main optical axis by rotation and to be shifted by an angular offset such that an overlapping portion of the at least two rotative elements can be varied.